(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Steps taken by the Ministry of Water Resources for rain water harvesting and water conservation include:—

(i) Dissemination of information on rain water harvesting and ground water recharge to all stakeholders.

(ii) Conducting of mass awareness and training programmes on rain water harvesting.

(iii) Institution of National Water Award and Bhoomaijal Samvardhan Puraskar in the Ministry of Water Resources for NGOs/Gram Panchayats/Urban Local Bodies.

Soil subsidence near dams

1615. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Central Government has been drawn to the severe problem being faced in rural areas by soil subsidence caused near irrigation dams;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that representations have been received from different States by Government to conduct a comprehensive study for the cause of soil subsidence;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and dam-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) No representation has been received from any State in Central Water Commission to conduct any study for the cause of soil subsidence near irrigation dams. However, an individual from Polavaram, West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh has recently addressed a letter to Union Ministry of Water Resources stating massive soil subsidence since Kovvada dam was built at L.N.D. Peta across Kovvada river in West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh. Since irrigation is State subject, the matter has been referred to respective State Government Organization.

Implementation of ongoing water management development schemes

1616. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the various Ministries responsible for implementation of the ongoing water management development schemes of the Central Government;

(b) whether division of responsibility to handle 'Water' by various Ministries does not result in mutiplicity and dilution of authority/accountability;

(c) whether the Planning Commission or Standing/Consultative Committees of 'Water Resources' made any recommendation, in above context; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and status of implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Related activities in respect to water resources development and management are undertaken by respective Ministries. The details are given in the enclosed statement (*See* below).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (d) There are no specific recommendation of Planning Commission regarding division of responsiblity in handling water by various Ministries resulting in mulplicity and dilution of authority/accountability. However, in the Tenth Plan Document, the need for proper coordination was duly emphasized and a suggestion was made for single administrative Ministry for water and to begin with, setting up of a National Water Resources Programme Coordination Committee under the chairmanship of Member, Planning Commission was indicated. The Standing Committee on Water Resources in its observation had desired the Ministry of Water Resources to urge the Planning Commission to take urgent steps in this regard. The Planning Commission has since reviewed the position. Keeping in view the responsibilities already vested with the Ministry of Water resources and inter-Ministerial coordination machineries already in position, the Planning Commission is of the view that the existing administrative arrangements in regard to the water sector need not be disturbed for the present.

Statement

Activities in respect to Water Resources Development and Management by Various Ministries

Ministries	Activities
Ministry of Water Resources	Development, conservation and management of water as a national resources overal national perspective of water planning and coordination in relation to diverse uses of water particularly towards development & management of irrigation and flood control projects and command area development.
Ministry of Rural Development	Rural water supply
Ministry of Urban Development	Water supply to urban areas
Ministry of Agriculture	Micro irrigation, watershed development projects for rainfed areas, soil conservation in catchments for river valley projects & flood prone areas.- On farm water management
Ministry of Power	All matters relating to hydro-electric power
Ministry of Environment & Forests	Conservation, development, management and abatement of pollution of rivers
Ministry of Shipping	Inland Waterways
Ministry of Earth Sciences	Matters of Policy, coordination and schemes relating to the Ocean, Meteorology; India Meteorological Department
Ministry of Science & Technology	National Spatial Data Infrastructure and promotion of GIS
Planning Commission	Formulation of Plan for the most effective and balanced utilization of the country's resources (including water resources).

Scientific use of ground water

1617. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a policy for the scientific use of ground water in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?